



Sequoyah School is an independent, all gender K-12 day school in Pasadena, California. Founded in 1958, Sequoyah opened its high school campus in 2016 and graduated its inaugural Senior class in 2019.



Academic Scope and Sequence

Sequoyah School's modular (Mods) schedule supports a rich, more focused learning experience. Designed for student engagement, students take **three (3) 80-minute classes** per day, allowing for more active experiences like seminars, debates, simulations, labs, and projects. Mods allow for more individualized attention, detailed and frequent feedback, and increased options electives.

There are seven (7) modules per school year, approximately five weeks each. Mod 7 is an experiential module dedicated to camping trips, international expeditions, social innovation projects, and internships. The year also includes mid-year and year-end Exhibition Weeks. The following represent typical course loads in a Mod, with three required courses per day plus one elective:

Subject	Ninth Grade	Tenth Grade	Eleventh Grade	Twelfth Grade
Math	Algebra I Geometry	Algebra II Advanced Algebra Geometry	Functions and Transformations (Pre-Calculus) SAS Calculus SAS Calculus 2 SAS Computer Science SAS Higher Math: Number Theory Statistics Global Online Academy: Multivariable Calculus, Linear Algebra	
Science	Conceptual Physics	Chemistry	Biology SAS Chemistry	Medical Problem-Solving: Investigating Disease SAS Biology: Macro Systems SAS Biology: Micro Systems SAS Physics: Experimental Mechanics SAS Statistical Epidemiology SAS STEM Research Fellowship
Humanities: History	Humanities 1B	Humanities 2B	US History SAS US History	Authoritarianism SAS US Government and Politics SAS Indigenous Studies
Humanities: English	Humanities 1A	Humanities 2A	SAS American Literary Movements SAS Comparative Classics of World Literature SAS Ethics and Existentialism SAS The Bible as Literature SAS The Detective and Film Noir Women Writing, Writing Women	
Spanish	Spanish 1/2	Spanish 2/3	Spanish 3-4 SAS Spanish 3-4	SAS Spanish 4-5
Arts	Foundations in Art Foundations of Theater	Regular Electives	Filmmaking Regular Electives SAS Arts Seminar	SAS Electives SAS Music Production SAS Theater

Evaluation and Grading

Sequoyah's high school program uses a competency-based assessment system to help students develop competency with a set of six Learning Outcomes (LOs). Throughout each course, students receive feedback and a grade for each LO and receive an overall grade at the end of the course. Information about this approach to assessment is available in our [Curriculum Guide](#).



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A Sequoyah School education challenges the mind, nurtures the heart, and celebrates human dignity.

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Signature Programs

Field Studies

Through a distinctive, four-year Field Studies program that bridges academic curriculum with outdoor education, students experience the natural world in deeply meaningful ways. Each year, students take two multi-day trips which emphasize real-world understanding of preparedness, strengthening confidence and self-reliance, practicing teamwork and collaboration, and ingraining in students a profound environmental consciousness. They travel to a variety of remote locations, including a 10-day homestay in a Costa Rican village and a culminating 15-day backpacking trip for Seniors.



Social Innovation Program (SIP)

This four-year sequence focuses on addressing complex social and environmental challenges aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and is designed to cultivate foundational skills of social innovation through regular field trips in the community. Ninth and tenth graders develop skills in systems thinking, creative problem solving, and ethnographic and statistical research, preparing them for a two-year capstone project in 11th and 12th grade. Throughout their SIP experience, students establish professional relationships with stakeholders while reflecting on their unique positions to effect change.



Talking Leaves

Sequoyah School's Talking Leaves program honors our namesake, who developed the Cherokee system of written language and referred to ideas conveyed in writing as Talking Leaves.

Our students explore and analyze topics of their choice based on a meaningful intellectual experience and reflect on its role in their growth as learners. They give a culminating "talk" (oral presentation) and "leaf" (essay) modeled after a thesis defense, articulating their learning while practicing presentation skills and leading conversations on a topic of interest to them.



Global Online Academy (GOA)

Sequoyah School joins more than 85 independent schools from around the world in preparing students for a global future by providing new, modern ways for students to learn and teachers to teach. Through meaningful and rigorous online courses, students at Sequoyah connect in real time with students from different geographic, cultural, and ethnic backgrounds and perspectives. All GOA courses are taken for credit and taught by faculty at member schools.

Graduation Requirements

A minimum of 24 course credits is required to graduate, with 6 credits in elective courses, plus credits in SIP, Field Studies and Talking Leaves:

English
4 credits

History
3 credits

Mathematics
3 credits

Laboratory Science
3 credits

World Language
3 credits

Art
1 credit

Physical Education
4 seasons (2 credits)

Electives
6 credits

Field Studies
7 trips

Social Innovation Program
4 credits

Talking Leaves
6 successful presentations, including June of 12th Grade

Featured Extracurriculars

Debate

The high school's Debate Program prepares students to compete in multiple forms of debate in local National Speech and Debate Association events and national tournaments.

Design and Fabrication (dFab) Hub

The **dFab Hub** gives students the skills necessary to turn their ideas into realities. Through a variety of after-school, Z Block, and lunchtime offerings, students learn how to use a range of hi-fi and lo-fi tools and materials, such as laser cutters, 3D printers, sensors, and microcontrollers, X-Acto knives, hot glue guns, and more. The dFab Hub supplements all areas of students' academic, personal, and SIP interests, and is directed by a student advisory council.

Gryphon Media Company

Sequoiah's students run a number of publications and media production projects, including [The Barefoot Times](#), the school paper, radio station KAWW, literary journals Gender Matters and Seco, and the high school yearbook.

H2 Grand Prix

The growing demand for energy in an era of manmade climate change may ultimately be the greatest challenge of the 21st century. The **Horizon Hydrogen (H2) Grand Prix** (left) is a comprehensive science and engineering program that gives students from all over the world the opportunity to apply their talents as they learn about environmental sustainability, renewable energy and alternative fuels, through a variety of science experiments and curricular materials.

Robotics

Sequoiah School participates in the [California First Tech Challenge](#). We explore the fundamentals of robotics through hands-on projects in engineering, programming, and electronics. Students work in teams to design, build, and program a robot, create a team identity, develop a game strategy, and document their progress over time. Students learn about the broader societal context of economic, educational, and social factors historically leading to disproportionate access and outcomes within the field of robotics and how they can work to remove many of these barriers.

STEM Institute

Sequoiah's **STEM Institute** involves students as members of a larger scientific community through participation in research experiences and field work with experts at world-renowned institutions including Caltech, JPL, and USC. Institute members recently developed an affinity group for girls in STEM, which extends beyond the Institute and engages other members of the scientific and research community. Students conduct original research and participate in the LA County Science Fair.

Sequoiah by the Numbers

208
9-12 STUDENT
ENROLLMENT

78%
FACULTY HOLD
ADVANCED
DEGREES

14
AVERAGE
CLASS SIZE

58
DIFFERENT
ZIP CODES
REPRESENTED

54
CLASS OF 2026
STUDENTS

50%
FAMILIES PAYING
LESS THAN FULL
TUITION

Memberships & Associations

Ashoka Changemakers
California Association of Independent Schools
Global Education Benchmark Group
Global Online Academy
Mastery Transcript Consortium

National Capstone Consortium
National Association for College Admission Counseling
National Association of Independent Schools
Western Association for College Admission Counseling

College Acceptances

CLASSES OF 2020–2026

Bold indicates matriculation.

Albion College
Alfred University
American University
The American University of Paris
Amherst College
Arizona State University
Art Center College of Design
Babson College
Bard College
Bard College, Berlin
Bates College
Beloit College
Bennington College
Berklee College of Music
Binghamton University
Boston University
Bowdoin College
Brandeis University
Brown University
Bryn Mawr College
California Lutheran University
California State Polytechnic University
Humboldt, Pomona, San Luis Obispo
California State University
Channel Islands, Chico, Dominguez Hills, East Bay, Fullerton, Long Beach, **Los Angeles**, Maritime Academy, **Monterey Bay, Northridge**
Carleton College
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
Central Connecticut State University
Central Washington University
Champlain College
Chapman University
Claremont McKenna College
Clark Atlanta University
Clark University
Colgate University
College of the Atlantic
College of Charleston
The College of Wooster
Colorado College
Colorado State University (Fort Collins)
Columbia College (Chicago)
Columbia University
Concordia University
Connecticut College
Cornell University
Cornish College of the Arts
Denison University
DePaul University
Dickinson College
DigiPen Institute of Technology
Drew University
Drexel University
Duke University
East Los Angeles College

Eckerd College
Elon University
Emerson College
Emory University
Evergreen State University
Fordham University
Franklin & Marshall College
George Washington University
Georgetown University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Gettysburg College
Goldsmiths University
Goucher College
Grinnell College
Hamilton College
Hampshire College
Harvey Mudd College
Haverford College
Hofstra University
Indiana University (Bloomington)
Ithaca College
Johns Hopkins University
Johnson & Wales University
Jewish Theological Seminary of America
Kansas City Art Institute
Kenyon College
Lafayette College
Laguna College of Art and Design
Lawrence University
Lehigh University
Lewis & Clark College
Louisiana State University
Los Angeles City College
Loyola Marymount University
Loyola University Chicago
Macalester College
Manhattan University
Marist College
Maryland Institute College of Art
Massachusetts College of Art and Design
Massey University
McGill University
Miami University (Oxford)
Michigan State University
Middlebury College
Middlesex University London
Molloy University
Montana State University
Moore College of Art and Design
Mount Holyoke College
Mount St. Mary's University
Mount Saint Mary College
Muhlenberg College
New England Institute of Technology
New York University
Northeastern University
Northwestern University
Oberlin College
Occidental College

Ohio University
Oregon State University
Otis College of Art and Design
Outer Coast College
Pace University
Parsons Paris at The New School
Parsons School of Design at The New School
Pasadena City College
Pepperdine University
Pitzer College
Pratt Institute
Princeton University
Purdue University
Quinnipiac University
Reed College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rhode Island School of Design
Rhodes College
Rice University
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Ryerson University
St. Lawrence University
St. Olaf College
Saint Mary's College of California
San Diego State University
San Francisco State University
San Jose State University
Santa Clara University
Sarah Lawrence College
Savannah College of Art and Design
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
School of Visual Arts
Scripps College
Seattle University
Sewanee: The University of the South
Siena University
Simon Fraser University
Skidmore College
Smith College
Sonoma State University
Southern California Institute of Architecture
Southern Methodist University
Spelman College
St. John's College, Santa Fe
St. John's University
Stanford University
State University of New York Buffalo, Morrisville
Stony Brook University
Swarthmore College
Syracuse University
Temple University
The Cooper Union
The New School
Toronto Metropolitan University
Trinity College, Dublin
Trinity University
Tulane University

Union College
University of Arizona
University of the Arts London
University of British Columbia
University of California
Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, Merced, Riverside, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz
University of Chicago
University of Colorado Boulder, Colorado Springs, Denver
University of Connecticut
University of Delaware
University of Denver
University of Dundee
University of East Anglia
University of Hawaii, Manoa
University of Hartford
University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign
University of Iowa
University of La Verne
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Montana
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Oregon
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Portland
University of Puget Sound
University of Redlands
University of Rochester
University of St Andrews
University of St. Thomas
University of San Francisco
University of Southern California
University of Toronto
University of Utah - Honors College
University of Vermont
University of Victoria
University of Washington, Seattle
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Ursinus College
Vanderbilt University
Vassar College
Washington State University
Washington University, St. Louis
Wesleyan University
Western Washington University
Wheaton College
Whitman College
Whittier College
Willamette University
Williams College
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Yale University

Sequoyah's Class of 2027

The Class of 2027 is comprised of **55** students.

Sequoyah School does not rank its students.

Highest weighted GPA
4.6

Median weighted GPA
3.8

Average weighted GPA
3.7

Median unweighted GPA
3.6

Average unweighted GPA
3.54